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HALIFAX

**metro**®

Thursday, December 15, 2011  
www.metronews.ca



News worth sharing.

**Mad. Dash**



► Halifax Regional Police Const. Karen Misner watches as her 16-month-old son, Joshua, runs ahead of her and 12-year-old Holly MacIntyre during yesterday's seventh annual CopShop.

PHILIP CROUCHER/METRO

## Hey! Somebody stop that toddler

Misner and MacIntyre were one of 50 pairs of cops and children who took the Halifax Shopping Centre by storm for this holiday shopping spree. Story, page 6.

## Police mum on homicide arrests

► Looking for people with information about victim's whereabouts on Nov. 19

Halifax Regional Police are being tight-lipped about how two arrests made this week may or may not influence the investigation into the murder of Christina Kathleen Cline.

Police arrested a 36-year-old man in Halifax and a 25-year-old woman in Dartmouth Tuesday morning. Both were interviewed and released yesterday morning without charges.

Police spokesman Const. Brian Palmeter said police had the grounds to arrest the two people and bring them in for questioning, but said "at the end of the day, we didn't have the information we needed to lay charges."

"Investigators have been working very hard on this file, and even though we haven't put a lot of information forward, there's been a lot of behind-the-scenes activity," Palmeter said yesterday. "Now we'll be looking into where to go from here."

Palmeter said both people were

### Cause of death

Police say they know how Christina Kathleen Cline died but are not releasing that information.

known to the victim, but would not say how they were known to her. He said police now believe the murder was not a random act but said that information didn't necessarily come out of interviewing the two people.

"We believe we're far enough along that we can say this is not a random act."

Palmeter said no more arrests are planned at this point.

On Nov. 19 around 10:40 a.m., a man walking in Shubie Park, in an area known as Vivian's Way, discovered the body of 27-year-old Cline of Dartmouth.

● ALY THOMSON



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# Soldiers mishandled weapons: Military

Four Canadian soldiers violated standards for weapons handling before and after they were deployed to Afghanistan in 2007, a military investigation has concluded.

"Remedial action" has been taken against three of the soldiers, all of them members of 36 Canadian Brigade Group, the main army reserve unit based in

Halifax, the Canadian Forces said in a statement yesterday.

Capt. Collette Brake, a spokeswoman for the unit, said the soldiers received a warning, probation or counselling, but she couldn't elaborate.

"These are not charges against the members but administrative in nature," she said in an email.

"In order to respect the privacy of the members, we are not permitted to provide specific details."

Allegations of inappropriate use of weapons arose in 2009 during the first of two military trials involving Matthew Wilcox, then a corporal with the unit, based in Sydney, N.S.

At the initial court martial, testimony, photos and

videos submitted as evidence suggested there were several instances of inappropriate use of weapons by members of the unit.

That prompted the military to start an investigation.

Last month, Wilcox was sentenced to four years in prison for fatally shooting fellow soldier Cpl. Kevin Megeny. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



CAPE BRETON POST

# 1

  
news

# Still no tenants for Nova Centre

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



► Developer Joe Ramia talks about convention centre plans in this 2010 file photo taken at the Cunard Centre.

► Centre's future may hinge on world economic markets



ALEX  
BOUTILIER  
@METRONEWS.CA

Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal Minister Bill Estabrooks said he'll be returning his attention next month to the proposed convention centre project for downtown Halifax.

But the fate of Joe Ramia's Nova Centre may already be outside the province's hands.

Estabrooks said Ramia showed considerable patience with the three levels of government as they worked out a \$163.4-million funding deal for the project.

The provincial government is returning the favour.

"I'm keeping track of the days," Estabrooks said yesterday. "(But) Joe was very patient with us

through the negotiation period ... and we're going to continue to be patient with him. It's a top priority for me, though, as January appears on the horizon."

Four months ago yesterday, the federal government kicked in \$51.4 million to the convention centre project. At the time, Ramia indicated he hoped to have tenants for the financial centre — the above-ground portion of the project — by early November.

When asked about the issue yesterday, Ramia had no comment. He also had no comment when asked when his company, Rank Inc., will make a final decision on the project.

In August, Ramia said he had already approached potential tenants with a Plan B — one

that did not include the convention centre.

"Now we're going to go back and say, 'Look, you liked (the Nova Centre) project before. Can you deal with (a later occupancy date)?" Ramia told Metro on Aug. 14.

Ramia said he received one positive response for a "major tenancy."

Since then, however, world financial markets have been less than stable — meaning firms may be less inclined to open up new offices.

## 2014

The Nova Centre was scheduled for completion in 2014.



The Governor General is seeing to it that 'Eddy' will be the first EduZone mascot in space. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at [2dscan.com](http://2dscan.com).

On the web

Allan Small explains why investors should be more enticed by the stimulus posture of the U.S. than by the rapid growth of emerging economies. More at [metronews.ca/investing](http://metronews.ca/investing)

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## TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

**Winter parking ban in effect**

There's already been one trial-run snow storm, but HRM's overnight winter ban officially took effect yesterday.

HRM sent out a reminder to residents yesterday the ban is now in effect until March 31.

This year the HRM Traffic Authority is only enforcing the off-the-street ban during ice and snow storms instead of every night all winter. During these events, cars must be off the streets so the plows can get through from 1 to 6 a.m.

The HRM ban might be a little looser this year, but provincial law requiring people to remove their cars from the streets for snow plows still applies day or night. ● METRO

**Speed demons getting busted**

A stretch of Highway 104 in Pictou County is gaining a reputation as a high-speed zone.

RCMP say they've laid five stunting charges along a five-kilometre section near Pine Tree in the past month alone.

Just before 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, the Mounties clocked an eastbound vehicle travelling at 167 kilometres per hour.

**50 Stunting is defined as driving more than 50 kilometres per hour over the speed limit.**

The speed limit there is 100 km/h.

The 33-year-old driver from Miramichi, N.B., was handed a fine for \$2,400 and his licence was suspended for a week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Glum fiscal outlook for P.E.I.**

Prince Edward Island is forecasting a larger deficit of \$73.4 million for this fiscal year. Finance Minister Wes Sheridan is partly blaming the global economic downturn for the province's worsening fiscal situation. THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Pedestrian struck by senior: Police**

Police say a 42-year-old woman was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries after being struck by a vehicle while walking in a crosswalk yesterday on Joseph Howe Drive. The driver, a 75-year-old woman, was issued a ticket. ● METRO

**Centennial and Victoria buildings to come down**

▶ Province will share costs of project with Capital Health

▶ More than 200 inpatient beds will need to be transferred out



JENNIFER TAPLIN  
@METRONEWS.CA

Both the Centennial and Victoria buildings at Victoria General will be demolished in the coming years.

Standing in an old, deserted hospital room in the Centennial building yesterday, Health Minister Maureen MacDonald announced the province's plans to make some major hospital upgrades in Halifax.

She said a request for proposals will be issued early in the new year for a consultant to put together a report outlining costs and timelines for modernizing and consolidating the Capital Health district over the next five years.

A big part of that plan is taking down the Centennial and Victoria buildings, which are more than 40 years old. Right now, inpatient-outpatient specialized care is offered in the two different buildings, creating duplication and inefficiency.

Patients will soon start transferring from Centennial to the newer Halifax Infirmary site.

Chris Power, Capital Health CEO, and MacDonald wouldn't say what would be built on the site once the two buildings are demolished, but it's obvious tertiary care will need to go somewhere.



▶ Health Minister Maureen MacDonald walks toward a press conference inside the Centennial Building at the Victoria General site yesterday.

"It makes sense to look to that site where we have the space," Power said.

Up to five floors could also be added to the Halifax Infirmary.

And there's speculation on what could be built on the former Queen Elizabeth High School site at the Willow Tree intersection.

"Putting in an additional floor (for the infirmary) is a part of the possibilities," MacDonald said.

**Planning to cut \$32M**

Capital Health will deliver its plan to cut \$32 million from its budget to the province tomorrow.

Chris Power, Capital Health CEO, wouldn't talk particulars on the cuts since there is work to be done with the

health department on the specifics. But she said they "stayed true" to the department's requests to keep funding in certain areas.

"We've been looking at everything," she said. "As always, looking at patient-care areas is the very last thing we go to, but with that magnitude of dollars there will be some changes to patient care."

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# Copshop serves up Christmas delight

► Children selected because of need, recognition of sports or academic achievements, or for volunteer efforts ► Event first started in Halifax



► Halifax Regional Police Sgt. Sean Townsend looks over some of the potential purchases with Jenna Jallah, eight, yesterday at the Halifax Shopping Centre.



ALY THOMSON  
HALIFAX@METRONEWS.CA

"Ta-da!" yelled eight-year-old Jenna Jallah as she emerged from a fitting room at the Halifax Shopping Centre yesterday.

"I think she's ready for her close up," said Halifax Regional Police Sgt. Sean Townsend.

Jallah and Townsend were one of 50 pairs of kids and cops who took the shopping centre by storm yesterday afternoon for the seventh annual CopShop.

Children and young teens ate pizza, listened to Christmas music and were each given a \$200 gift card to the mall to buy whatever they wanted.

And although many of the youngsters darted for the Sport Chek to pick up their free winter coat, hat and mittens — which was separate from the \$200 — Jallah went straight to The Children's Place to find the perfect holiday dress.

Jallah, whose family immigrated to Halifax from Liberia more than five years ago, immediate-

**"Just to see the smiles on all the kids faces. It's amazing."**

SGT. SEAN TOWNSEND, HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE

ly ripped an assortment of Justin Bieber T-shirts off the rack, and after much consideration, narrowed them down to two.

Townsend said it wasn't too long ago that he took Jallah's brother, Konyan, shopping at the first ever Cop Shop in 2005. He said getting to know the kids and their families is "a

great thing to be a part of."

"Not every kid gets what they want for Christmas, so this gives them the opportunity to maybe get that one thing they wanted," he said.

Armed with a pen and note pad, 11-year-old Rayhannah Cromwell had her wish list scribbled down well before she arrived at the mall.

Cromwell, from Halifax said she was hoping to buy a pair of "flats," a Moshi Monsters video game and some new shirts.

## Opposition questions Starts Here ads

A new \$160,000 advertising campaign based on the ubiquitous Ships Start Here initiative has drawn the ire of the opposition Progressive Conservatives.

During question period yesterday, PC Leader Jamie Baillie asked Premier Darrell Dexter why his government committed that taxpayer money to the Future Starts Here campaign.

"Will the premier admit that spending \$160,000 on an ad campaign only proves that he is now putting communications ahead of doing his job properly?" asked Baillie.

Dexter defended the campaign, saying the ads "describe accurately the op-



► Darrell Dexter

portunity that is going to be there" due to the \$25 billion shipbuilding contract.

"It is important that we use all avenues to get that information out to those (people) so they can take best advantage of (the opportunities)," Dexter said.

The province spent \$620,000 on the original Ships Start Here campaign.

● ALEX BOUTILIER

## Province won't fund insulin pumps

Young diabetics will not be getting financial support from the province for insulin pumps, Nova Scotia's deputy minister of health told a legislature committee yesterday.

Kevin McNamara told the public accounts committee the Health Department did an assessment and determined money for an insulin pump program isn't available now.

"We're not arbitrarily turning our back on this," McNamara said.

"The advice we have received to date is not to proceed with it based on the existing programs we have in place and other priorities we have to address."

McNamara said if he had a choice, he would fund long-lasting insulin rather than pumps because it would be of greater benefit to diabetes patients.

Insulin pumps monitor and regulate insulin levels while delivering the drug at a steady rate to suit a patient's need.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Arrests after 3 cars set on fire

Two young men are under arrest after a series of suspicious car fires in Cape Breton.

The Cape Breton Regional Police Service says it responded to three fires early yesterday in the Sydney area. All three vehicles were engulfed in flames by the time emergency personnel arrived.

Officers with assistance from a police dog arrested two suspects — one 20, the other 21.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Murder suspect still on the lam

Police are still on the hunt for a man charged with attempted murder from an incident last weekend.

Colchester RCMP Staff Sgt. John Berry said officers are searching for Indian Brook's Andrew Stephen Robinson, 32.

He's wanted in the attempted murder investigation following an assault last Friday in Stewiacke. A Shubenacadie man was found unresponsive and with serious head injuries.

● TRURO DAILY NEWS

## Annual visits still lag behind 2010 numbers

Three per cent more visitors graced Nova Scotia's shores in October compared with the same time last year.

But despite the bump, year-to-date tourism continues to lag behind 2010 levels.

In October, air travel to

the province was up by 15 per cent, while road travel decreased by two per cent. That continues the year to date trend, which saw a nine per cent increase in air travel and a six per cent decrease in road travel compared to 2010.

The increase in October was partially driven by a 10 per cent increase in overseas visits. Travel from the United States decreased four per cent that month.

Domestic travel has also declined two per cent so far this year.

# 2

The percentage drop in visitors to Nova Scotia through the first 10 months of 2011, compared with 2010.

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## ROYAL TRIP

## Charles, Camilla to visit Canada

The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall will visit Canada next May as part of a year-long celebration leading up to the 60th anniversary



of the Queen's coronation, the federal government announced yesterday.

Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla, will tour New Brunswick, Ontario and Saskatchewan during the trip.

Earlier in London, Buckingham Palace announced that the couple will also visit Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Shopping, e-games: Your taxes at work

The Aboriginal Affairs Department called in an auditor after one of its managers went on a wild, taxpayer-funded shopping spree, new documents show. A bureaucrat in the Northwest Territories charged tens of thousands of dollars to government credit cards.

When the misbehaving manager got caught two and a half years into her splurge, she was nearly \$40,000 in the hole.

"Her actions were not impulsive and/or compulsive. They have been found to be premeditated," says a briefing note to top officials. THE CANADIAN PRESS

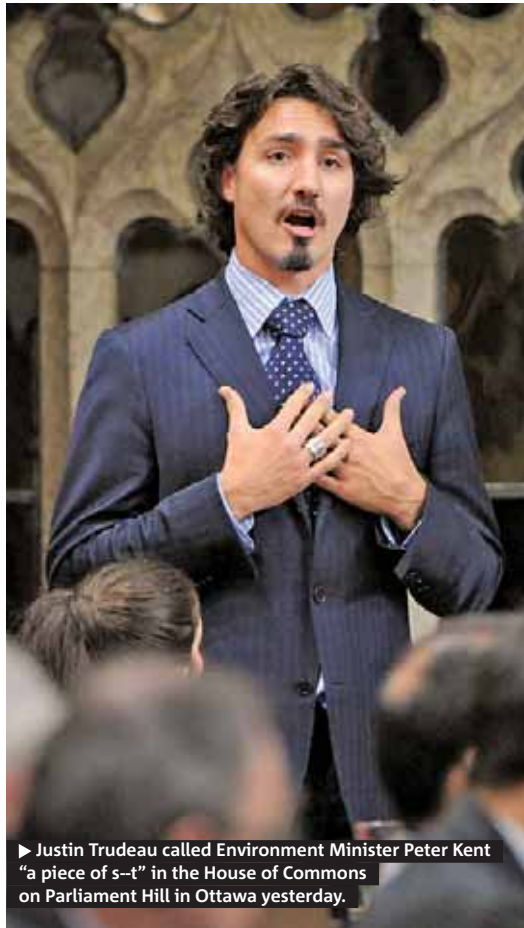
## What she bought

## Purchases included:

- ▶ \$4,000 on an online game called Second Life.
- ▶ A trip to Las Vegas in February 2010, where the woman and her husband spent five nights at the Circus Circus hotel and casino at a cost of \$2,000.
- ▶ Purchases at Walmart, Northern Fancy Meats and Staples.
- ▶ Almost \$100 for pizza.
- ▶ Cellphone and cable bills.
- ▶ On the long list of expenses, only a \$27 book on how to use PowerPoint was for work.

## Trudeau apologizes after swearing at Kent

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Justin Trudeau called Environment Minister Peter Kent "a piece of s-t" in the House of Commons on Parliament Hill in Ottawa yesterday.

## Unparliamentary language causes uproar in Commons

## Expletive

- ▶ It has been a foul-mouthed season on Parliament Hill.
- ▶ New Democrat MP Pat Martin recently used an expletive on Twitter when the government limited debate on its budget bill, and interim Liberal leader Bob Rae referred to "bulls-t" in response to a negative tweet by another Liberal.

His father claimed to have only mouthed "fuddle dud-dle" during a heated Commons exchange, but a colourful outburst by Justin Trudeau during question period is leaving no room for confusion.

The Liberal MP was heard quite clearly to have called Environment Minister Peter Kent a "piece of s-t," causing a momentary uproar in the House yesterday.

Kent had just finished telling his NDP critic Megan Leslie that she was ill-informed about a recent climate-change conference because she hadn't attended. But the government had prevented opposition MPs from being part of the official Canadian delegation.

Following question period, Trudeau rose immediately to apologize.

"I lost my temper and used language that was most decidedly unparliamentary and for that I unreservedly apologize and withdraw my remarks," he said. Kent said he wasn't troubled by the language,

but asked that Trudeau apologize to the House of Commons. New Democrat Ryan Creary also got into trouble over language after he called a cabinet minister a "bully."

Speaker Andrew Scheer suggested he withdraw the comment, but he refused.

"The minister of fisheries and oceans asked a question, he asked this House whether he looked like a bully," Creary said.

"I merely answered his question. I would answer his question the same way if he asked it again."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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## News in brief

LYNN CHAMBERLAIN/UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE SERVICES/AP



► A surviving grebe.

## Birds mistake land for water

**CRASH LANDING.** Thousands of birds died on impact after apparently mistaking a Walmart parking lot and areas of southern Utah for bodies of water and plummeting to the ground in what one wildlife expert called the worst downing she's ever seen.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Google works to end slavery

**RECORD GRANT.** Tech giant Google announced

yesterday it is donating \$11.5 million to several coalitions fighting to end the modern-day slavery of some 27 million people around the world.

It is believed to be the largest-ever corporate grant devoted to the advocacy, intervention and rescue of people being held, forced to work or provide sex against their will. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Freak accident kills woman

**DEATH BY DRAGGING.** A woman was killed in a freak elevator mishap yesterday around 10 a.m. in a 26-storey office tower near Grand Central Terminal. The woman was stepping onto the elevator on the first floor when either her foot or leg became caught in the closing doors. The car then rose abruptly, dragging her body into the shaft and killing her, officials said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Police shave, arrest punks to teach lesson

► Muslim hardliners cut off mohawks of rock fans to enforce moral values ► Police crack down on 'disgusting' lifestyle

Police in Indonesia's most conservative province raided a punk-rock concert and detained dozens of fans, buzzing off their spiky mohawks and stripping away body piercings because of the perceived threat to Islamic values.

Dog-collar necklaces and chains were taken from the youths before they were thrown in pools of water for "spiritual" cleansing, local police Chief Iskandar Hasan said yesterday.

After replacing their "disgusting" clothes, he handed each a toothbrush and barked "use it."

The crackdown marked the latest effort by authorities to promote strict moral



► In this photo, punks sit inside a pool in a police school compound after their heads were shaved in Aceh Besar, Aceh province, Indonesia.

values in Aceh, the only province in this secular but predominantly Muslim na-

tion of 240 million to have imposed Islamic laws.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Police story

► Baton-wielding police scattered fans, many of whom had travelled from other parts of the sprawling archipelagic nation to attend the show.

► Police said 59 young men and five women were loaded into vans and brought to a police detention centre.

► They would spend 10 days getting rehabilitation, training in military-style discipline and religious classes, including Qur'an recitation, police officials said. Afterward, they'll be sent home.

► While the men's heads were shaved, the women, some in tears, were given short, blunt bobs.



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## News in brief

## Toyota Venza on top for theft

**CAR CRIME.** Bad news for Toyota Venza owners — the 2009 edition of the crossover SUV is the new hot target for Canadian car thieves.

The model tops the Insurance Bureau of Canada's top 10 most frequently stolen vehicles. It replaces the 2000 Honda Civic SiR, last year's No. 1 stolen vehicle, which has dropped to third place.

In at second is the 1999 Honda Civic SiR two-door, while the 2006 Ford F350 Pickup Truck 4WD takes fourth place and the 2002 Cadillac Escalade EXT four-door AWD is in fifth.

The ICC says vehicles are often targeted by criminal organizations that strip or resell them to unsuspecting consumers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Canadians watch more online

**VIDEOS.** The average Canadian Internet user spends about an hour watching 10 videos online a day, according to digital measurement firm comScore. ComScore named Canadians as the most avid viewers of online video again, with users aged 15 and older watching an average of 303.7 videos in October.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Easier to connect with WestJet

**AIRLINES.** WestJet Airlines Ltd. has signed an interline deal with Japan Airlines making it easier for passengers to connect between the two airlines. Travellers will link from Japan Airlines flights landing in Vancouver, and then connect to WestJet flights.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Mobile banking ready to rise

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

► Nearly 3 million Canadians are checking balances via their phones

Most Canadians still aren't pulling out their phones to check their bank account balances and pay bills but experts and users alike expect a whole lot more will be doing so in 2012.

"We definitely see there's been humongous growth on the banking front on the phone platform," says Bryan Segal, vice-president of the digital measurement firm comScore.

Canadians are among the world's leaders when it comes to embracing online and mobile banking, according to comScore. Last year, Canada ranked as the top country for online banking usage, with almost 65 per cent of our Internet users going on the web each month to check their accounts.

More recently, comScore estimated there were about

## Market moment

TSX

- 216.9  
(11,543.05)

Dollar

- 0.5¢  
(96.19¢ US)

Oil

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(\$94.95 US)

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\$1,586.90 US  
(- \$76.2 US)

13.3 million Canadians regularly doing online banking, compared to 63.6 million in the U.S.

Segal says about 13 per cent of Canada's mobile users access their banking on their phone on a month-



► A smartphone user tracks mortgage payments with an online banking app from CIBC.

ly basis, which is roughly on par with the U.S. market and ahead of the European Union.

TD Bank and RBC had the biggest chunk of the market, with 26.7 per cent and 25.7 per cent of mobile banking users, followed by CIBC with 17 per cent, Scotiabank with 13.2 per cent and ING Direct with 9.8 per

cent.

According to a Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association survey, the biggest reason users are avoiding mobile banking is security. About 52 per cent said they had security-related concerns, while 24 per cent said they simply found online banking easier.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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the HOTTEST 5  
songs that day!



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## Witness 'pretty sure' Murdoch's son was aware of hacking

A former top lawyer for Rupert Murdoch's British newspapers insisted yesterday that he told the mogul's son there was evidence of widespread phone hacking more than three years before the scandal over the practice erupted.

Tom Crone questioned claims made by James Murdoch — chairman of News International, the British arm of his father's media empire — that he had not been fully informed that hacking was rife.

Crone told Britain's media inquiry he was "pretty sure" that he showed Mur-

doch a printed email that included transcripts of illegally intercepted voice mail messages in 2008. News International insisted the illegal accessing of the voice messages was confined to reporter Clive Goodman who, along with private investigator Glenn Mulcaire, was jailed in 2007.

But in July the company closed the tabloid, amid public outrage over the disclosure that reporters had hacked the phone of a missing schoolgirl, Milly Dowler, who was later found murdered.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Canadians cushioned for gift-giving: TD

TD Canada Trust says Canadians have built up something of a financial cushion going into the holiday season, thanks to a penchant for putting extra dollars

aside.

The bank says a recent survey suggests 53 per cent were setting aside at least 10 per cent of each paycheck.

The bank added that even more, almost 60 per cent, are planning to build their nest eggs in the new year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



# IGNORING KYOTO, ONE LESS COUNTRY AT A TIME

HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE  
METRO



I, for one, was inspired by the Kyoto Protocol, which ushered in a bold new era in which countries throughout the world put aside their differences and worked

together to ignore the Kyoto Protocol. It's rare you see that kind of teamwork outside of arms deals.

The Conservatives pulled Canada out of Kyoto this week, and it would be easy to mock them (fun, too), but this is a failure we all share in.

When the Kyoto deal was signed in 1997, we talked about the deal as if something really exceptional had happened that would unite humanity — like the end of nuclear weapons or a Saved by the Bell reunion special.

We were breathlessly told that we'd be able to breathe again, all thanks to 160 signatories sending the amount of greenhouse gases back to the halcyon days of the 1980s.

The U.S., showing its usual world leadership, got the failure started when George W. Bush said the protocol was "economically irresponsible" — a description that looked a little short-sighted when New Orleans did its

imitation of the SpongeBob SquarePants mise-en-scène.

At the time, Canada took its usual official diplomatic position toward the U.S. of being smug. According to WikiLeaks, Paul Martin's official cable to the U.S. was "Tsk, tsk, tsk." Canada's greenhouse-gas record was as bad as America's but we left that part out, as one does.

Some blame goes to the accord's writers, too: We should have known Kyoto was doomed as soon as we heard there were environmental "credits" that could be used to offset actually helping the environment — a sort of frequent-polluter points card. Getting out of pollution standards because you are planting trees, say, seems to me like getting out of a speeding ticket in the morning because you plan to drive under the speed limit in the afternoon.

Finally, of course, there's you. Did you do anything worthy of an environmental award since 1997? Recycling and composting only gets you a Certificate of Attendance.

Global warming is too slow, too subtle for humans. Us rats, we don't understand risk-reward if the electric shock comes decades later.

I'm still hopeful. Everyone seems to value the environment, even if they weren't on board for Kyoto. One-hundred-and-sixty countries failed in Japan, but it could be different now. If we really believe, we could get 190, maybe 200 countries on the road to probable failure this time. When it comes to world diplomacy, this is progress.

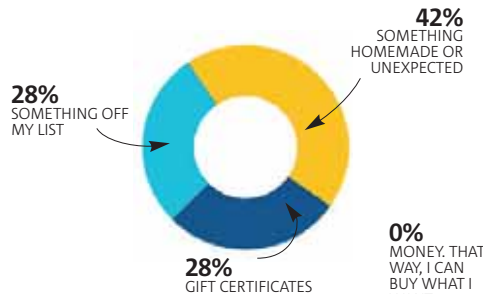
(Deep breaths, everyone. Deep breaths.)

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at [metronews.ca/hesays](http://metronews.ca/hesays)



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What type of gift do you prefer to receive?



## Local tweets



**@Diana\_Dobs:**  
Still haven't had to break out my winter coat once this season! #Halifax #don-tjinx

**@MolsonFerg:** What a beautiful day in #Halifax ...maritime hospitality...cheers

**@TheNetworkSally:** Back in the homeland #Halifax ... loving it!

**@morgmacd:** Somehow all of #halifax smells like celery...

**@vicjones:** For a company that apparently values effi-

ciency it is not demonstrated at #hfx FedEx shop

**@tamaramunroe:** Looking for a hand-held sewing machine in #Halifax for a #Christmas gift. Trying to avoid big box stores this season. Can anyone #help?

**@kitkat514:** Last #exam today, can't wait for friday to go home for the break! #halifax #thebestcoast

**@JenniferMitsuk:** how is it my bf has never had or heard of seoul chicken, is he the only one #Halifax

**@strut64:** Shopping in #halifax with sissy .. So far all I've done is bought for myself #greatstart

## Daily Zoom



# All quiet on the Baghdad front

## U.S. leaving Iraq via Kuwait route

**KUWAIT.** U.S. army soldiers from the 1st Cavalry Division walk to a waiting bus as they leave customs for a ride to the airport to fly back to Fort Hood, Texas. They exited Iraq yesterday at Camp Virginia in Kuwait City. President Obama is meeting Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki to ceremonially mark the end of the war.

● METRO WORLD NEWS



**"On behalf of a grateful nation, I'm proud to finally say these two words — welcome home."**

**BARACK OBAMA TOLD CHEERING TROOPS AT FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA**

**150,000**  
American troops were present in Iraq when Obama took office. Within 15 days, there will be zero left. Some 4,483 U.S. soldiers have died in Iraq since the conflict started, while nearly 30,000 have been injured. The Iraq war cost the U.S. approximately \$1 trillion.

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● METRO WORLD NEWS



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# 2

## scene

### Oscar



The Academy Award Orson Welles won for writing the classic film *Citizen Kane* will be sold to the highest bidder. Auctioneer Nate D. Sanders plans to sell the Oscar statuette on Dec. 20.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Downey meets his match as 'Holmes' sequel resurrects granddad of super-villains Moriarty



► The Jungle Book is performing at Neptune Theatre's Fountain Hall until Jan. 8.

# Just bear necessities

► Neptune Theatre showing *The Jungle Book* this holiday season ► Swing on down to it

## BACKSTAGE PASS

JENNA CONTER  
METRO HALIFAX



Taken from the pages of Richard Kipling's novel, adapted to the stage by artistic director George Pothitos and composer Eric Hughes, Neptune Theatre is proudly presenting *The*

*Jungle Book* this holiday season.

Reminiscent of the famed Disney film, Sheldon Bergstrom, who brings Baloo to life, tells me this production not only pushes the boundaries, but resonates with a valuable message.

"There's a fine line between something that's a little dark and a little stressful (as told by Kipling), as opposed to something that is full-on scary," Bergstrom says.

"I think they've put to-

### The Jungle Book

Where to get tickets.

► Tickets For tickets to *The Jungle Book*, visit [neptunetheatre.com](http://neptunetheatre.com)

gether a pretty fun, family show with all the heart that (Kipling) was really able to put into his story."

The 40-year-old Saskatchewan native is thrilled to be part of a production that captivates all

ages. Though Bergstrom knows the older crowd will catch the subtle comedy, he hopes the younger generation in the audience will take home the message that the rules of the jungle can be used at home.

"We all become parents of Mowgli and teach him how to survive, how to get by, how to say please and thank you, which seem to have fallen by the waste side these days," Bergstrom explains.

Happy to provide the

comic relief during those more tense moments in the production, Baloo takes his role of teacher seriously, passing on the "bear necessities" of common courtesy.

"It's got some important messages about manners, about acceptance, about looking out for each other and those are certainly lessons that we talk about more during the holiday season," he says.

"But it's something that we can afford to do a little more year round."

# Saving victims to biting them

► Chris Meloni, who ended 12-year run on *Law & Order*, will join HBO's drama *True Blood*

HBO says *Law and Order* veteran Chris Meloni will be sinking his teeth into a role on vampire drama *True Blood*.

The network confirmed yesterday that Meloni will be joining the popular series as an ancient, power-

ful vampire who controls the fate of the show's major characters.

The series' fifth season is expected to air next summer. Its stars include Anna Paquin and Stephen Moyer.

Meloni recently ended a

12-year run on NBC's *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*, where he played Detective Elliot Stabler.

Before that, the 50-year-old actor was a regular as a bisexual inmate on HBO's gritty prison drama, *Oz*.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Chris Meloni

GETTY IMAGES



*From a writer of "The Office"...*

# Originals

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# Lohan bails on Ellen's show

► Producers score Michael Jackson's daughter instead

## THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON  
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



Remember that "exclusive" interview Lindsay Lohan was going to do on Ellen — the only media appearance she agreed to do to promote her new Playboy magazine spread? Well, she missed it. Of course she did!

Her rep says the reason she didn't make the show was because she "was delayed in Hawaii due to a travel-related issue. Lindsay offered to tape Ellen tomorrow, but the show was unable to shift things around, and tomorrow is their last day of taping for the season." The show's producers are less than pleased, according to Gossip Cop. "Not a call or an apology from Lindsay," a source close to



► Lindsay Lohan

the show says.

However, the producers scored a coup de grace and got Paris Jackson (Michael Jackson's oldest child) to fill in for Lohan in her first solo television appearance, which will air on Thursday. The 13-year-old talked about her new film role in

the fantasy film *London's Bridge and the Three Keys*. She says her decision to act was due to her father. "My dad was in the movie *Moonwalker* and I knew he could sing really well, but I didn't know he could act. I saw that and I said, 'Wow, I want to be just like him.'"

## Kutcher's fling regrets dishing

Despite the \$200,000 she reportedly earned for dish-

ing on her affair with Ashton Kutcher,

San Diego resident Sarah Leal is regretting the decision to go public.

"I got fired from my job. I am no longer friends with my best friend who

was my roommate because it caused so many problems and I had to move out," Leal tells Fox411.

"I had no idea what I was getting myself into."

● METRO

## Marc 'nuts' over JLo's new playboy

Jennifer Lopez has moved on from ex-husband Marc Anthony with the help of a younger man, back-up dancer Casper Smart, and Anthony is reportedly "going nuts" about it, according to *Us Weekly*.

"He has fits and tantrums and is very stressed," a source says. [He's] lost a lot of weight." And apparently he's not the only one dismayed by the new pairing, as Lopez's friends reportedly aren't too thrilled either.

● METRO

## Celebrity tweets

@OfficialMelB  
  
ok so i think i'm d efuo going with the video xmas card,ok family lets get this done in the next week or so,will keep you guys posted!

@mrskutcher  
  
changing my twitter name isn't a top priority right now. sorry it bothers so many of u. should i not tweet until i do?does it really matter?

@lindsaylohan  
  
Is this for real??? My friend has a trained cheetah in his car ... That's nuts!!!!!!

@Joan\_Rivers  
  
We Jews decorate differently for Christmas. Our manger scenes are typically set in a Chinese restaurant.



# Stay safe, sober on roads

It doesn't seem to matter how often we talk about the dangers of drinking and driving. Someone, somewhere, isn't listening.

According to statistics provided by the Ontario Provincial Police, impaired driving is the leading criminal cause of death in Canada. And, sadly, arrests for impaired driving hit a year-long peak during the final weeks of the year.

For those who haven't noticed, the penalties for drinking and driving are considerably tougher,



thanks to groups like Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Even for first-time offenders, de-

fending a drunk-driving arrest is expensive.

"Everyone recognizes that the holiday season is a great time to reconnect with family and friends and celebrate with a few drinks," said Mauro Convertini, insurance expert at Aviva Canada. "It's important, though, to have a plan in place to get yourself and your loved ones home safely."

Convertini offers some simple tips to ensure a safe and happy holiday season:

► Plan ahead: If you are

likely to consume alcohol at an event or party, don't take your vehicle.

► Use a designated driver: Remember, the "least impaired" person in the room is not a designated driver.

► Use public transit: If this is not an option, make arrangements to spend the night if you are visiting a friend.

► Use a taxi or limousine service: There are more than 35,000 operating in Canada.

NEWS CANADA

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## Ring in the new year responsibly

Leading up to Auld Lang Syne, keep it low key with a cosy gathering in your home.

An intimate celebration allows guests (and the host) to relax and enjoy each other's company without all of the added chaos that can be associated with larger New Year's Eve parties. Even so, responsible hosting etiquette is still required. Follow these tips for responsible hosting:

**1** Offer all guests an assortment of non-alcoholic beverages.

**2** The host/hostess should serve drinks

themselves or ask a reliable friend to act as the bartender that evening — as guests tend to drink more when it's an open bar.

**3** Stop serving alcohol at least one hour before the festivities officially end and offer guests desserts, coffee and other non-alcoholic beverages.

**4** Ensure there is a plan in place for any guests who may need help getting home, and be prepared for overnight guests.

**5** Be prepared to take car keys away and send guests home in a cab if

they haven't enjoyed responsibly. Even better, when invites go out to guests, provide them with details on Taxiguy, a mobile app that's available online.

In partnership with Molson Coors, the free Taxiguy app calls one of 425 cab companies across Canada (closest to your location) at the touch of a button. Use it to ensure friends and family are kept safe on New Year's Eve.

Follow these guidelines for ringing in 2012 responsibly and let sticking to your New Year's resolution be the only thing anyone has to worry about Dec. 31.

NEWS CANADA

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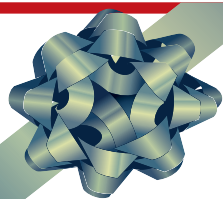


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## Lovebullets

Lovebullets jewelry, the label that's championed by singers Lily Allen and Cheryl Cole gives a percentage of its profits to Warchild, who support children in conflict zones like Iraq. **MWN**



## LOVEBULLETS

\$86, [lovebullets.co.uk](http://lovebullets.co.uk)



U.S. Olympians to suit up in red-white-and-blue Ralph Lauren designs for London Games.

# Crown's jewel shines

▶ A daughter of design royalty and goddaughter of true royalty sparkles with many talents

ALL PHOTOS PAWEŁ DWULITZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS



**"I recognize in myself a lot of my strengths have come from him and indeed the way I decorate. Whether it's interiors, whether it's a collection of fragrances or whether it's fine jewelry."**

**INDIA HICKS ON HER FATHER, RENOWNED DECORATOR AND DESIGNER DAVID HICKS**



India Hicks hasn't drifted far from the flashbulbs since she was thrust into the global spotlight three decades ago as a teen bridesmaid in Charles and Diana's royal wedding.

The goddaughter of the Prince of Wales earned a degree in photography before moving in front of the lens as a sought-after model, featured by the likes of Ralph Lauren, Banana Republic and Bill Blass.

The London-born Hicks

makes her home in the Bahamas with partner David Flint Wood and their four children, but continues to expand her brand.

She has launched an e-commerce arm of her island lifestyle boutique The Sugar Mill, has teamed with Crabtree and Evelyn on two collections of bath and beauty products and penned a book on inspirational interiors and another on fitness and natural beauty.

Her foray into designing fine jewelry seems a

fitting addition to Hicks' style-centred resumé and reflective of her rich pedigree.

Indeed, family played a figurative role in the decision to put her stamp on a signature jewelry collection — perhaps most notably her father, the late David Hicks.

The renowned interior decorator and designer was known for his strong use of colour and geometric designs in carpets and textiles, and his signature esthetic is where Hicks draws inspiration for her creations.

"We may have had a tricky relationship because he was quite a tricky chap, (but) a brilliant designer and a fascinating person," Hicks said in an interview last week in Holt Renfrew's offices.

"As a father, he was a perfectionist and he had a

very strong point of view on how things were going to be done. So there were definitely times as a child where it was intimidating and life could have possibly been a little more relaxed on occasion.

"But nevertheless, I recognize in myself a lot of my strengths have come from him and, indeed, the way I decorate. Whether it's interiors, whether it's a collection of fragrances or

whether it's fine jewelry, there's a lot of influence from my father."

Her mother is Lady Pamela Hicks, daughter to the Earl and Countess Mountbatten of Burma.

Hicks took part in an in-store meet-and-greet with customers at Holt Renfrew's downtown flagship store last week where her jewelry collection will be carried exclusively in Canada.

The 44-year-old said there's much more she'd like to tackle in the style domain, but she wants to ensure she maintains her responsibilities balancing motherhood with work.

She also seeks to be prudent in lending her name and energy to a project she sees as having longevity.

"You want a collection that, firstly, you know is going to stand the test of time, you know is actually a good product, you know will have an audience that will be willing to buy it and invest in it and follow you," she said. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Thank you India

### Hicks aces accessories:

- ▶ The Hicks on Hicks collection of sterling silver and diamond pieces features her father's famous hexagonal pattern with a modern, architectural influence seen in cuffs, earrings, necklaces and statement rings.
- ▶ Her sea-inspired Island Life collection includes starfish wrap cuffs and rings, fish-tail earrings and shimmering shell-shaped pendants.

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# Mane-y Christmas, happy new hair!

## THE KIT

By Chantel Simmons

For hair that dazzles as much as the decorations on the tree, spoil your locks with these three festive holiday hair tips.

### Pixie Dust

Give your roots a "should've washed my hair but didn't have time" boost with Label.m Dry Shampoo, \$22, labelm.co.uk.

### Shine On

There's no excuse not to have silky, shiny hair this

winter.

Here are our top picks to get shiny hair in the shower — or out. Try Orofluido Shine Spray, \$22, orofluido.com

### No Drips Allowed

Finally, you can colour your own hair without staining your skin.

Try Clairol Nice n' Easy Color Blend Foam, \$11, www.clairol.ca or 800-CLAIROL, and L'Oréal Paris Sublime Mousse, \$12, lorealparis.ca.

SUBSCRIBE FOR FREE TO THEK-IT.CA AND DISCOVER THE DIGITAL WORLD OF BEAUTY.



## Jeanne Space



In this hectic modern world, Twitter has become a cool and succinct way of communicating. It allows me to be accessible, instantly speak my mind, and connects me with all kinds of people. Whether it's a fashion question, or you just want to comment on life's bigger picture, I'd love to hear from you.



@Jeanne\_Beker:

When my kids were small I gave them cozy new flannel pj's every xmas eve so they'd be wearing them xmas morning. What will YOU be wearing?

► @toniaantonietta: Wow, I gave both my girls the same thing. Now, in their twenties what do I give them?

► @Jeanne\_Beker: My girls are in their 20s too. Think I'm going to revive the tradition!!

► @patricktustin: I want to find a flannel one-piece that will fit my 6 foot frame hahaha

► @Jeanne\_Beker Oh yeah...with a "trap door" in the back, right? Good luck!!

► @Linny\_Bop you are never too old for Christmas pj's! My mom still buys @MaMi\_KriS and I a pair every year & we are 30 & 27 :) #traditions

► @Jeanne\_Beker Yay! Think I'll get my kids PJ's again this year too!!!



► @Jeanne\_Beker: Decking the halls (and tree) with @joeyoneil + my cool son-in-law Keith! Eggnog anyone??

► @Jeanne\_Beker: Great xmas slippers by Haflinger available @ronwhiteshoes, in red too!!



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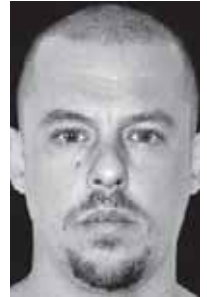
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# No room? There's still a place for that tree

► Think outside the decoration box ► Karl Lohnes invents new ways to add festive flair to the smallest of spaces

## DESIGN CENTRE



KARL LOHNES  
HOME@  
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**Question: I live in a really small**

**space and have no room to add a Christmas tree. How can I add a festive look to my small condo that won't take up the floor space?**  
**Andrea Nichols, Vancouver**

**Answer:** I suggest looking at ways to add fresh or artificial greenery to the walls or a door rather than taking up floor

space.

First thing to do is inquire with your condo to see if fresh greens and trees are allowed (very often they are not), especially when electrical lights are being added.

Not only are they considered a fire hazard, but the cleaning of dried needles and removal of the

tree after the holidays is often a concern.

Artificial greens are a great alternative; they look realistic, are fire-retardant and last from year to year.

Look for outdoor artificial greenery. Larger-scaled wreaths and garlands can also help add a bigger impact.



► Outdoor Pine Wreath with decorations; \$99, Pottery Barn

### Do up your door

Link three wreaths vertically on a door so they can be viewed from a common spot in your condo. Use over-door wreath hangers to hang the wreaths.

Arranging the smallest on top to largest on bottom will give you a traditional tree shape or stacking same-sized

wreaths will add a contemporary flair.

Use battery operated mini lights to illuminate the wreaths to allow the door to swing open and closed.

For real fun, paint the door a shiny bright red colour or cover it in a big-scaled holiday wrapping paper.

### Christmas in a corner

Choose an artificial half or corner tree.

This will give you the look of a tree but without the bulk of a full one.

I suggest buying a four-six foot tree and standing it on a skirted decorator table to give it height and allow it to look super tall and more

majestic.

With only half or a quarter-sized tree to decorate, fill it with tons of ornaments that are all related by colour.

Some great colour combinations that are festive would be: brown and orange, lime green and gold or red and turquoise.



► Faux long-neededled garlands, ornaments and candles on a mantel add an instant holiday focal point to any room.

### Festive reflections

Frame a large floor standing mirror with garlands, ornaments and lights.

To do this effectively, you have to go big with the gar-

lands. Buy about 50 feet of garland; this will allow you to double it up and give a lush presence around the large mirror (or even a doorway or mantel).

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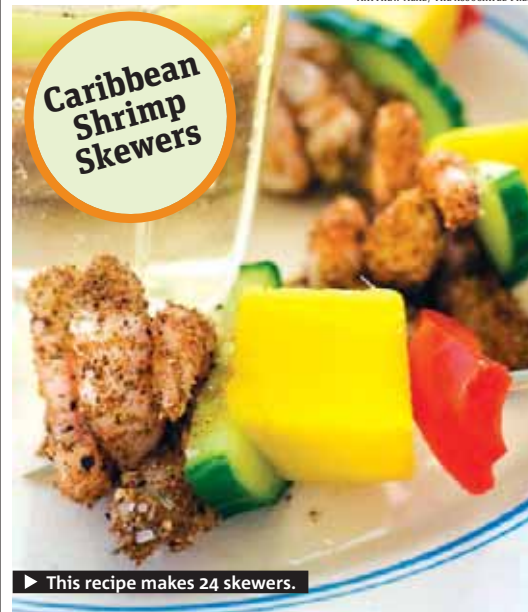
## NEED A NEW JOB OR CAREER?

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# Have yourself an appy Christmas

► Banish dull shrimp cocktail in favour of something a little bit more zestier: Caribbean Shrimp Skewers

MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Caribbean  
Shrimp  
Skewers

► This recipe makes 24 skewers.

### Ingredients:

- 5 ml (1 tsp) garlic powder
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) allspice
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) cinnamon
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) nutmeg
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) dry ginger
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) dried thyme
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) cayenne pepper
- 5 ml (1 tsp) black pepper
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt
- 285 g (10 oz) peeled and deveined cooked medium shrimp
- 6 Peppadew peppers, quartered
- 2 mangoes, peeled, cubed
- 1/2 English cucumber, cut in 1/2 moon slices

and salt. Pat shrimp dry, then toss in spice mix.

**2** On 10-cm (4-inch) skewers or picks, place a piece of pepper, then a piece of mango, a piece of cucumber and finally 3 spiced shrimp.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/  
ADAPTED BY EMILY  
RICHARDS, PROFESSIONAL  
HOME ECONOMIST,  
COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV  
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Are you a little bored with the same old shrimp cocktail? This year, try something different.

Start with the same easy, pre-cooked shrimp, but this time toss them with a zesty Jamaican-style seasoning blend and skewer them with cubes of tangy mango

and cool, crunchy cucumber. Add a touch of zippy pepper and nobody will suffer from yet-another-shrimp-cocktail syndrome.

### Preparation:

**1** In bowl, stir garlic powder, allspice, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, thyme, cayenne, black pepper

## Weekly Cookbook

### 750 Best Appetizers

From dips & soups to spreads & shooters



Judith Finlayson & Jordan Wagman

One of the best parts of the festive season is appetizers to serve with drinks as friends gather.

In that spirit, Toronto food writer Judith Finlayson and chef Jordan Wagman co-authored 750 Best Appetizers: From Dips and Salsas to Spreads and Shooters (Robert Rose, 2011).

The book has 16 chapters built around specific types of dishes, such as dips and spreads, or specific ingredients like seafood and fish or cheese.

Among the starters are: tahini dip, shrimp bisque, pepper-wrapped chorizo, duck confit quesadilla, feta-spiked watermelon salsa with chilis, smoked salmon and avocado tartare, beer battered oysters, and many others.

WITH FILES FROM THE CP



## DROP A FEW POUNDS This Holiday Season

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# Top tech toys



MIKE  
YAWNEY  
FOR METRO

Still looking for that special something for that gadget lover in your life? There are so many gadgets and so little time before Christmas! Let us help you weed out the good from the bad with this list of must-have tech toys sure to please that nerd in your life.

## Motorola Razr — \$649 (no contract); \$149 — three-year contract

Now here's a blast from the past! Motorola has revived the Razr! The handset debuted back in 2004, now, seven years later, the brand finds new life. This ultra-thin, water- and scratch-resistant smartphone is blazing fast thanks to its 1.2GHz dual-

Clockwise, from top: Motorola Razr, \$649 (no contract), \$149, three-year contract; Nike+ SportsWatch GPS, \$199; Kobo Vox, \$199; and Crayola ColorStudio HD, \$29.99.

core processor. The updated handset features a 4.3-inch Super AMOLED screen, 8-megapixel camera capable of shooting 1080p HD video, as well as a front camera. One of the standout features has to be Mo-toCast, which lets you stream your documents and media files from your home or work computer. Easily one of the best Android phones of 2011.

## Kobo Vox — \$199

Kobo is best known for its eReaders, but the company has now expanded into the tablet market. The affordable Kobo Vox is a colour eReader, which doubles as an entry-level Android tablet. Read books, surf the web, send email or download one of more than 15,000 apps. The Kobo Vox is not as fast as some of the top-selling tablets on the market, but makes a great gift for someone who wants an easy-to-use device.



## TDK Boombox — \$399

The '80s are making a comeback! TDK, the company best known for blank cassette tapes, is bringing the boombox back. This high-end audio system is made from quality materials including glass and aluminum. Two powerful six-inch coaxial drivers deliver clear vocals and crisp highs while a six-inch subwoofer provides superior bass. Supports most audio devices, even instruments! Carry this beauty on your shoulder this Christmas and make a statement.

## ION iCade — \$99.99

Turn your iPad into an authentic arcade cabinet. Made from wood, this cabinet features buttons and a joystick to ensure you get the nostalgic feeling of stepping into an arcade. No quarters needed! The iCade is compatible with more than 100 classic Atari games such as Asteroids, Centipede, and Battlezone (each sold separately)

## Viper SmartStart — starting at \$349 (price depends on vehicle)

Tired of getting into a cold vehicle? Why not use your smartphone to start your vehicle so it's toasty warm when you climb in. Viper's SmartStart system works off

your cell signal so you can start your vehicle from practically anywhere you get reception. No need for a remote on your key ring! Works with most smartphones.

## Nike+ SportsWatch GPS — \$199

Need encouragement to get in shape? This watch may just be what you are looking for! Nike has teamed up with TomTom to design the perfect GPS watch to track time, pace, distance, calories burned, and heart rate while running. You can even go online and take a look at your running history and interact with runners around the globe. Wear it while running or use it as an everyday watch.

## Darth Vader Toaster — \$49.99

Enjoy your toast on the dark side? This dual-slotted toaster is for you. This officially licensed toaster will help you leave the mark of Vader's helmet on every piece of bread in your home on Christmas morning. Optional temperature settings ensure each slice is toasted to perfection.

## Parrot AR.Drone Quadricopter — \$329

Boys love their toys and here's one that will keep



ION iCade, \$99.99, left, Viper SmartStart, starting at \$349 (price depends on vehicle), below.



them entertained for hours. Parrot's AR.Drone is like a helicopter, only with four sets of spinning blades. The Drone is controlled through your iPhone and iPad. What really sets this gadget apart from other flying toys are the two cameras mounted on the device to give you a bird's-eye view from the air on your phone. Make sure you buy an extra battery since one charge will only give you about 10 minutes of flight!

## Crayola ColorStudio HD — \$29.99

Turn your iPad into a colouring book. Download the special app, select your colour, tip shape and then draw on your iPad with the digital iMarker. It feels just like a real Crayola marker! Download new pages, background music and sound effects. It's like having a never-ending colouring book!

Darth Vader Toaster, \$49.99, top, TDK Boombox, \$399, left,

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# Hey handsome

► Great grooming gifts for the man in your life



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FOR METRO

**Kerastase Homme Capital Force Daily Treatment Shampoo Anti-Oiliness Effect** cleanses oil-prone hair without stripping it dry, and leaves scalp feeling comfortable, too. \$35, kerastase.com for salons.

**L'Occitane Verdon Fresh Water Shower Body & Hair** two-in-one wash saves

time as it wakes him up with its waterfall-fresh scent. \$18, loccitane.com.

New **Gillette Fusion ProGlide Irritation 5 Defense Shave Gel** foams up to a rich beard-softening lather, and is souped up with glide-enhancing lubricants for a gentle, yet close shave. \$7.49 at drugstores and mass retailers.

**Biotherm Homme Aquapower D-Sensitive Soothing & Fortifying Af-**

**ter Shave Moisturizer** is fragrance- and alcohol-free, and enriched with Biotherm's signature Pure Thermal Plankton Extract plus calcium. \$30, biotherm-homme.ca.

**Kiehl's Facial Fuel Transformer Age Correcting Moisture Gel for Men** nudges the clock back on fine lines, uneven skin tone and pesky large pores with a light, quick-absorb formula. \$35, kiehls.ca.

**All-natural Consonant Body Antioxidant Superhero Serum** doses skin

with vitamins, minerals, and mattifying marine clay. **Ultra Moisturizing Organic Face Cream** moisturizes intensely without an oily finish. \$63 and \$54 respectively, consonant-body.com.

**Talc-free Jack Black Performance Remedy Dry Down Friction-Free Powder** is a cornstarch, cucum-

Gillette Fusion ProGlide Irritation 5 Defense Shave Gel, left, The Body Shop Hemp Hand Protector and Hemp Body Butter, below, and All-Natural Consonant Ultra Moisturizing Organic Face Cream for Dry Skin and Body Antioxidant Superhero Serum.



**Body Shop Hemp Hand Protector and Hemp Body Butter** consis-

tently seems to meet with their approval. That's a win-win. \$10 and \$18, respectively, thebodyshop.ca.

Best man-bribe? A massage, especially with **Weleda Arnica Massage Oil**, which will help warm and relax sore, tired muscles. Plus it will put him in a receptive mood so you can tell him a massage is an excellent bribe for you, too. \$24, well.ca, Rexall Pharma Plus, Whole Foods.



From left: Weleda Arnica Massage Oil; Talc-free Jack Black Performance Remedy Dry Down Friction-Free Powder; Biotherm Homme Aquapower D-Sensitive Soothing & Fortifying After Shave Moisturizer; Giorgio Armani Code Sport; Kerastase Homme Capital Force Daily Treatment Shampoo Anti-Oiliness Effect; L'Occitane Verdon Fresh Water Shower Body & Hair; Kiehl's Facial Fuel Transformer Age Correcting Moisture Gel for Men.

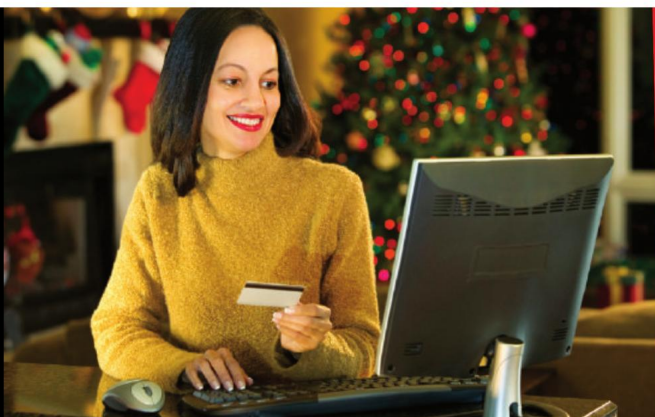
## Santa has elves, but I have Gift Cards.

Say hello to your little helpers - Mic Mac Mall MasterCard® Gift Cards. Purchase a gift card from now until December 24th and be entered in to win FREE movies for a year!\*

\* 104 movie passes provided by Empire Theatres. The Mic Mac Mall MasterCard® Gift Card is issued by Peoples Trust Company pursuant to license by MasterCard International Incorporated. MasterCard is a registered trademark of MasterCard International Incorporated.

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COMSTOCK/THINKSTOCK

# LET YOUR FINGERS DO THE SHOPPING

## ONLINE SHOPPING

You have to admit it, there's something pretty appealing about being able to do your Christmas shopping from the comfort of your own home. No need to circle around mall

parking lots looking for elusive parking spaces, no need to wrestle with awkward packages and, of course, no need to even change out of your pyjamas.

From research and comparison shopping to purchase and delivery, many people are discovering

that online is the way to shop. The Internet offers almost endless ideas for finding the perfect gift for everyone on your shopping list. If you are thinking about doing some of your Christmas online this year, here are some pointers to help make the experience an efficient and enjoyable one.

### OBTAIN A CREDIT CARD FOR ONLINE PURCHASES

Scotiabank has a suite of Momentum Visa Cards that offer cash-back rewards from 1 per cent to 4 per cent. To help decide which card is right for you, try the Momentum Cash Back Calculator at [scotiabank.com/momentumcashback](http://scotiabank.com/momentumcashback).

**BE THE FIRST TO KNOW** about shipping specials and other discounts by signing up for e-mail discounts from your favourite shops.

**BOOKMARK SITES** designed for Canadian shoppers. Canada Post Comparison Shopper ([canadapost.ca/shopper](http://canadapost.ca/shopper)), for example, analyzes products and deals from hundreds of stores in Canada and the U.S. Another site, Canada Shopping Links



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([canadashoppinglinks.com](http://canadashoppinglinks.com)) guides you to Canada's Internet retailers.

**DETAILS** When you're considering a purchase, pay attention to any terms and conditions, warranties, shipping facts and other important details.

**REVIEW THE VENDOR'S RETURN POLICY** Even the savviest of shoppers can end up with clothing that doesn't fit, is the wrong colour or wasn't quite what he or she expected.

With Dec. 25 fast approaching, make sure you also factor in delivery time. Some sites offer express shipping, but it's best to get your shopping done sooner than later to ensure that your special gift makes it under the tree in time for Christmas!

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STOCKBYTE/THINKSTOCK

## FIVE TIPS FOR WRAPPING UP CHRISTMAS

Say so long to Christmas-Eve chaos this year by wrapping holiday gifts well before Christmas. Here are a few tips to make the job easy and enjoyable.

**SET UP A DESIGNATED WRAPPING AREA** and ensure you have all the gift-wrapping essentials before you start. These include scissors,

tape, gift tags, paper and ribbon.  
**Tip:** Double-sided tape stays put and out of sight.

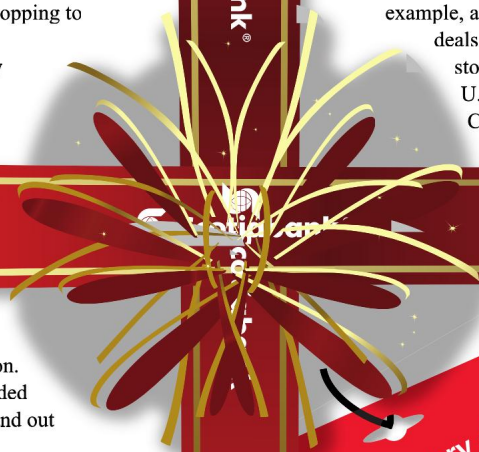
**USE CLEAR OR PRINTED CELLOPHANE BAGS** to wrap beauty products, candies, or baked goods. Seal the bag with ribbon or raffia and add some seasonal stickers to finish the job.

**PICK UP PAPER GIFT BAGS AT YOUR LOCAL DOLLAR STORE** Bags are affordable and available in a variety of sizes and patterns.

**PURCHASE A GLUE GUN AT THE CRAFT STORE** Glue guns are fun and easy to use and can transform an ordinary gift into a masterpiece.

**CUSTOMIZE YOUR GIFT** with seasonal greenery, pine cones, or artificial flower sprigs.

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## TOP 10 SONGS OF THE SEASON

When it comes to choosing the top 10 Christmas songs of all time, where do you start? Over the years, the airwaves have treated us to a variety of classics sung by everyone from Bing Crosby and Nat "King" Cole to Band Aid and Mariah Carey.

**ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF COMPOSERS, AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS (ASCAP), THE TOP 10 ARE:**

1. The Christmas Song (Nat "King" Cole)
2. Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas (The Pretenders)
3. Winter Wonderland (Eurythmics)
4. Santa Claus Is Coming To Town (Bruce Springsteen)
5. White Christmas (Bing Crosby)
6. Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow! (Andy Williams)
7. Jingle Bell Rock (Bobby Helms)
8. Little Drummer Boy (The Harry Simeone Chorale & Orchestra)
9. Sleigh Ride (The Ronettes)
10. Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer (Gene Autry)

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# Pretty woman

## ► Ten top-to-toe gifts for her



**JANINE  
FALCON**  
FOR METRO

**The KeratinPerfect Perfect Treatment Smoothing Duo** safely tames stubborn, wayward hair into a smooth, swifty, glossy finish at home. \$65, Sephora.

Mineral-rich **Boscia Luminizing Black Mask** purifies skin as it softens, brightens and energizes. Plus, it looks wicked cool on the face — cuz, yep, it's black. \$41 at Sephora.

Outfitted in a sweet tweed case, the **Dior Deluxe Holiday Palette** features a smoky-eyes duo and nude lip shade, nude-eyes duo and red lip shade, plus lip balm, powder and mascara. \$90, The Bay.



Did someone say stress? Not us, at least not after time spent with the eucalyptus and spearmint **Bath & Body Works Stress Relief Set**, which includes body wash and foam bath, body lotion, a candle and massage oil. \$49.50, bathandbodyworks.com.

Die-hard DIY manicure fans can get in on the no-chip, soak-off gel mani action with the **Nailene Professional UV Gel System**. With practice, it delivers salon-comparable results.



From \$9.99 to \$79.99, Shoppers Drug Mart.

With hands so much in the beauty spotlight, this **Crabtree & Evelyn Hand Therapy Kit with La Source Hand Recovery, Hand Therapy, Nail & Cuticle Cream** and a nail buffer, is a must-give. \$35, crabtree-evelyn.com for stores.

Iconic fragrance **L'Air du Temps** has a heritage that dates back to 1948. This year's **Nina Ricci L'Air**,

an airy, romantic floral, is the scent's youthful spin-off — the pair makes a lovely mother-daughter gift. From \$80, The Bay.

This luxurious, perfumed **Guerlain Vol de Nuit Powder Spray** is irresistibly iridescent with shimmering pale pink and hints of silver and blue-green sparkle. \$100, Guerlain counters.

A soothing, fragrant blend of

natural calendula, grape-seed, arnica, sandalwood and neroli oils, **Tata Harper Revitalizing Body Oil** beautifully conditions skin without leaving it slick. \$90, Gee Beauty, 416-486-0080.

The **Airplus Spa Value**

**Set** is stocked with excellent foot care formulas plus a full-size pair of cosy, cloud-soft, aloe-infused socks — hugs for hardworking feet after a long day. \$12.99, Shoppers Drug Mart, Zellers



Pharmacy

Clockwise from top: Bath & Body Works Stress Relief Set; Guerlain Vol de Nuit Powder Spray; Nailene Professional UV Gel System; Crabtree & Evelyn Hand Therapy Kit with La Source Hand Recovery, Hand Therapy, Nail & Cuticle Cream; Dior Deluxe Holiday Palette; Airplus Spa Value Set; Nina Ricci L'Air; Tata Harper Revitalizing Body Oil; Boscia Luminizing Black Mask.



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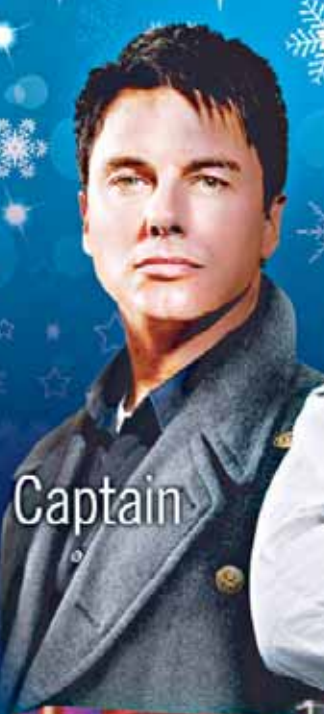
Available at:  
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Discover  
Samba Days





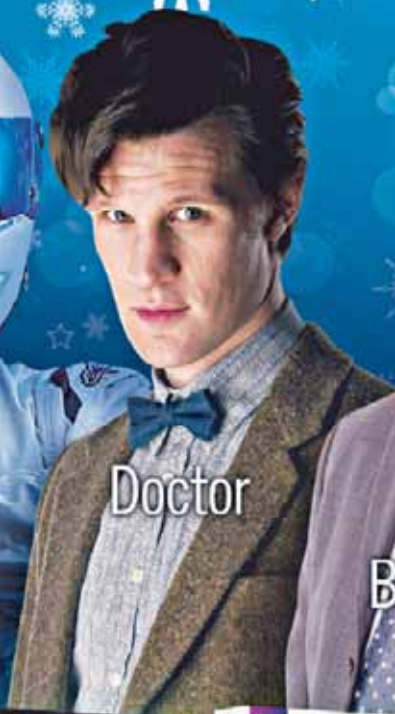
Unparalleled Holiday Gifts from the BBC!



Captain



Driver

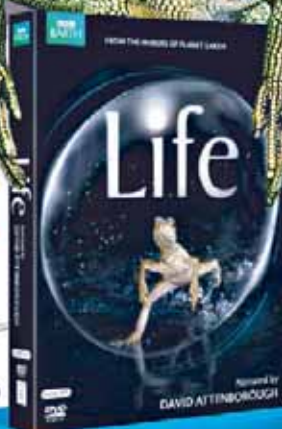
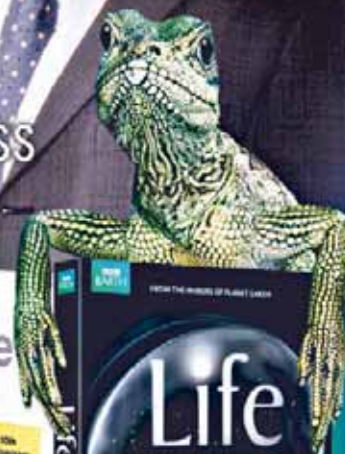


Doctor



Boss

Lizard



Earth



BBC

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**hmv**



# Wines that are fine with various dishes



**PETER ROCKWELL**  
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA  
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

Whether you are serving turkey, ham, lamb or beef this holiday season, odds are you will be washing it down with a glass or two of vino.

Finding wines that will appeal to a crowd and match with your spread can be challenging.

These picks will make nice with the big bird and just about anything else you might consider serving.

## **Freixenet NV Cordon Rosado (\$12.95-\$15.99)**

► This ripe, rounded, food-friendly rosé sparkler from Spain is my favourite big meal intro and proves that bubbly ain't just for New Year's Eve anymore.

## **Moselland 2010 ArsVitis Riesling (\$9.95-\$17.99)**

► It's hard to beat the soft, massaging flavours of a German riesling when it meets a mouthful of a complex meal. This off-dry version works wonders with both turkey and ham.

## **Caymus 2009 Conundrum (\$23.95-\$29.99)**

► This insanely innovative white California mix of more than five grapes drinks like holiday perfection whether before, during or after dinner.

## **Valumba 2010 'Y Series' Viognier (\$14.95-\$17.99)**

► This Aussie viognier serves up fresh, tropical

flavours supported by a vibrant, white pepper spice that's ideal with any major meal.

## **Oyster Bay 2010 Chardonnay (\$17.99-\$19.99)**

► It's hard to

beat the depth of flavour Chardonnay brings to the table and this New Zealander shows off the varietal's up-front fruit without going too

crazy with the oak.

## **Louis Latour 2009 Pinot Noir (\$18.95-\$25.49)**

► Roast poultry's red wine BFF is pinot noir. The grape's home region is France's Burgundy and this balanced, berry-forward Frenchman is a classic companion for red and white meats.

## **Bodegas Montecillo 2008 Crianza (\$14.95-\$19.99)**

► Red Rioja from Spain may sound like an unconventional turkey partner, but this wine's lightly wooded, cherry, cedar expression is the bomb.

## **Frescobaldi 2007 Nipozzano Chianti Riserva (\$19.92-\$27)**

► With its full-bodied richness and long in the mouth fruit flavour this Tuscan red really talks turkey.

## **Père Anselme NV La Fiole du Pape Châteaufort-du-Pape (\$35.49-\$39.50)**

► More than just a cool crooked bottle; this tasty, well-balanced French red is a blend of up to 13 different grapes.

## **Croft Pink Port (\$19.95-\$19.99)**

► Serving port chilled is a necessity, serving it ice cold is the wave of the future and this fruit-fest of a fortified wine from Portugal tastes great over ice as a post-dinner sipper.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.



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# What to get service providers?

Try to pick a theme when buying gifts for those outside the household

## CHARLES THE BUTLER



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FOR MORE, VISIT  
CHARLES  
MACPHERSON.COM

The holiday season is supposed to be one of family fun and relaxation, however, sometimes the obligations of the season create unneeded stress.

So how do we deal with the stress of gift giving to service providers?

Firstly, the types of service providers you may wish to thank are the dog walker, newspaper delivery person, and mail carrier, just to name a few.

There are two methods for dealing with this.

First, my favourite is to pick a theme. For example, everyone who works outside gets the same thing, such as a gift card from Tim Hortons or a new scarf and glove set. This is always a welcome treat since they can warm up the winter with a hot drink or with their new scarf and gloves.

But what to do if you have people at different levels of what is appropriate to give? For example, what do you give a dog



When trying to find a gift for service providers in your life, Charles the Butler advises to make a list of everyone you wish to give a present.

walker versus your math tutor?

**1** First, I like to write a list of everyone I wish to give a present.

**2** Try to come up with two or three categories, such as, small, medium and big and assign a dollar value to each category.

**3** Next, place everyone from your list into one of the three categories. Now you have your list and everyone is easily classified.

So what's next? Pick the presents for each category, ie., small presents are \$5 bars of special soap, the medium category is \$20 bottles of wine and, finally, the big category for only a few people may be

chipping in with your brothers and sisters to buy your parents a new TV.

These are the techniques that we as Butlers use to help keep the household organized so we can deal with all of the gift giving that may be required. And it's an easy formula, whether you have to give five, 10 or more presents this holiday season.

Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21  
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Tax Free Saturdays  
Enjoy our gift to you: We pay the tax!  
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LeapPad Explorer, \$109.99, available at Leap Frog, [shop.leapfrog.com/leapfrog](http://shop.leapfrog.com/leapfrog).

# Toy story for boys

Gross-Abulary Game, \$24.95, ages six and up, available at Mastermind Toys, [mastermindtoys.com](http://mastermindtoys.com).



Classic Red 12-inch Wheel Cruiser, \$139.95, available at Indigo, [chapters.indigo.ca](http://chapters.indigo.ca).



Lazer Stunt Chaser car with built-in rechargeable battery, wireless infrared remote control, stunt ramp, battery charger and instruction guide. Ages 4 and up, \$44.99, available at major toy retailers.

Air Hogs Hyperactives Pro R/C Vehicle, \$59.99, available at major toy retailers, [airhogs.com](http://airhogs.com).



Smart Labs Weird and Wacky Contraption Lab, \$49.95, ages eight and up, available at Mastermind Toys, [mastermindtoys.com](http://mastermindtoys.com).



Angry Birds 8-inch Red Bird Plush Toy with Sound, \$15.99, available at Future Shop, [futureshop.ca](http://futureshop.ca).



Songs Just For Me Personalized CD, \$19.99, available at Just For Me, [justforme.com](http://justforme.com).

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# Her Christmas wish

Espresso Kitchen, \$199.95,  
available at  
Indigo, chap-  
ters.indigo.ca.



Hello Kitty  
Acoustic Guitar, \$34.99,  
available at Sears, sears.ca.



Monster High  
Dead Tired Doll  
Assortment,  
\$15.99, available  
at Mattel, mat-  
tel.com.



Goody Gift  
Sets are  
available at  
leading food  
and drug  
mass retail-  
ers, all for  
less than  
\$9.99.



Alex Toys All Ducted Out Duct Tape  
Craft Kit, \$24.99, ages six and up,  
available at Mastermind Toys,  
mastermindtoys.com.

Leap Frog My Discovery House,  
\$19.99, available at Leap Frog,  
shop.leapfrog.com/leapfrog.



Teacup Piggie, \$19.99,  
available at most major retail  
outlets across the country,  
rptoys.ca.



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Mon-Sat: 9:30am-9:30pm

Sun: 10am-6pm

Sun: 12pm-5pm

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400 pg notebook  
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Family Organizer  
54 weekly pages & 16  
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Compare at \$17.99  
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Betta Display Aquarium  
Includes bowl, stand  
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Save  
up to 85%

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Men's & Ladies / Gift Boxed  
Compare at \$24.99  
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Save  
60%

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Bake, Decorate, & Display  
Compare at \$49.99  
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Save  
64%

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Dress, \$375,  
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at the Bay,  
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-\$34, available at Sears,  
sears.ca.



Stardust  
Cobalt Blue  
Body Con  
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Lightning Strikes,  
\$85, available at Top  
Shop, topshop.com.

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Faux Fur Stole  
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Top Shop,  
topshop.com.



Mini Parallele  
Tanzanite Pierced  
Earrings, \$140,  
available at  
Swarovski,  
swarovski.com.



Alex Fraga  
Purple  
Snakeskin  
Ring, \$498,  
available at  
the Bay,  
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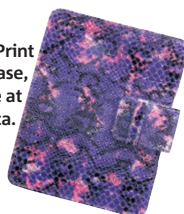
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# A GROWING VOICE



ISTOCK/THINKSTOCK

**MORE CANADIANS ARE CHOOSING TO HELP OTHERS OVER THE HOLIDAYS**

During the Christmas holidays, there tends to be a focus on gift giving, but there is a growing movement towards charitable gift giving.

"I think it's a sort of growing voice," says Owen Charters, the executive director of [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org).

[Canadahelps.org](http://Canadahelps.org) is a Canadian website that allows people to make online donations to any registered Canadian charity.

Charters says part of the reason for the charitable gift giving movement is that in an aging population, people are having a hard time finding items of need for themselves and others.

"How many more things do we really need?" is a question Charters says many baby boomers are asking themselves.

Charters says companies are also gravitating towards charitable gift giving. Rather than sending out cards and gifts, some are instead sending out holiday cards by email and making a donation to charity.

For Heather Avery, a resident of Truro, N.S., her practice of charitable gift giving during the Christmas holidays originated from her husband's family. Avery's husband grew up on a farm and the values of being appreciative of what you had and helping others in need were instilled in the children from an early age.



BRAND PICTURES/THINKSTOCK

Charitable gift giving is an idea she has bought into completely.

"When I came on the scene, it was like, 'Oh, you don't give your mom and dad a gift for Christmas,'" recalls Avery. "Now it's second nature. It's just, 'This is what we do. What charity are we choosing this year?' It's the way it should be."

Another added benefit of making a donation to charity is the tax benefits, although research shows this is only a small motivating factor for people.

With around 80,000 charities in Canada, choosing one (or a few) to donate to can be a challenge. Charters recommends checking out charities' annual reports and their websites to get a better idea of the work they are doing and the sort of impact they are having.

Also, don't hesitate to contact the organization for additional information.

"An organization that's doing great work is usually proud to talk about what they are up to," says Charters.

One important thing to determine is whether an organization is actually a charity. To verify this, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) recommends people ask a charity for its registration number and then confirm its status by accessing CRA's charities listing on its website ([cra-arc.gc.ca](http://cra-arc.gc.ca)) or by phoning CRA.

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## CHILDREN'S WISH GRANTS WISHES IN RECORD NUMBERS

Last year, The Children's Wish Foundation of Canada granted wishes to more children with a life-threatening illness than in any other year in its history. Approximately 1,100 children and their families got a reprieve from difficult treatments, therapies and hospital stays, and shared in the positive experience, hope and courage that a wish can bring.

"2011 is shaping up to be another record year for granting wishes," commented Regan Ludlow, Acting Director of Wishes for Children's Wish. "Virtually every month this year has seen a record number of children approved to receive their most heartfelt wish."

"We are very privileged to be able to have such a positive impact on the lives of the children we serve and their families," notes Children's Wish CEO, Chris Kotsopoulos, "and we look forward to continuing our tradition of never refusing a wish to an eligible child."

The cost of granting wishes to all children approved this year is expected to exceed \$11 million, placing greater importance on expanding the Foundation's engagement with volunteers and donors over the holiday season through such diverse avenues as The Catalogue of Wishes ([catalogueofwishes.ca](http://catalogueofwishes.ca)).

The Children's Wish Foundation of Canada is the country's only all-Canadian, national wish-granting organization with chapter offices in every province. The Foundation relies entirely on the generosity of their donors and volunteers to grant children their wishes. For more information about The Children's Wish Foundation of Canada, visit [childrenswish.ca](http://childrenswish.ca).



Paige was granted her wish to have her very own playhouse by Children's Wish



# HOLIDAY GIVING GUIDE: A NEW LOOK AT HOLIDAY MONEY MYTHS

## PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE MONEY CAN'T BUY HAPPINESS MIGHT BE SURPRISED AT HOW MUCH JOY YOU CAN BUY

A gift from World Vision Canada's 2011 holiday catalogue comes with a guarantee to change lives, including your own. Consider these twists on some old chestnuts.

### FACT OR FICTION? HEALTH IS BETTER THAN WEALTH

Health is, of course, invaluable. That's what makes a gift of health-care essentials worth more than a fortune in a developing country. For just \$100,

you (or a group of co-workers or family members) can stock a medical clinic with vital supplies like antibiotics, mosquito nets and vaccines. No wonder it's one of World Vision's most popular gifts: Canadians stocked nearly 10,000 medical clinics last year alone.

### FACT OR FICTION? MONEY DOESN'T GROW ON TREES

Answer: not literally, of course. But the miraculous moringa tree might as well sprout cash. Often referred to as the "miracle tree," the moringa grows throughout Africa and Latin America; its leaves and stems are exceptionally nutritious, and they yield cleansers, medicines and fibres that families can sell. For \$125, you can buy a family a future.

### FACT OR FICTION? IT TAKES MONEY TO MAKE MONEY

Absolutely true – and perhaps no truer than when a gift takes a family or even a community from dire poverty to sustainability. One of World Vision Canada's most popular gift is two hens and a rooster, which cost \$50 and

provide not only high-protein food for families but a source of income. You can also purchase goats, beekeeping kits, a fish farm... the list goes on.

### FACT OR FICTION? MONEY CAN'T BUY ME LOVE

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## Herd power play can give and take away

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

The Halifax Mooseheads' new-look power play is proving to be something of a double-edged sword.

Loading up their top unit with five forwards and rarely going with fewer than four in Tuesday's 4-3 win over the Bathurst Titan, the Mooseheads not only increased their odds of scoring, they also put themselves at greater risk of being scored on.

The Mooseheads went 2-for-9, but the five-forward unit was on the ice for a shorthanded break-away goal and surrendered several other odd-man chances that left rookie goaltender Zach Fu-

cale out to dry.

"There's always a risk when you don't have any D's ... You have to play a little bit more safe," said right-winger Alexandre Grenier, who was one of the forwards manning the point. "It's hard to find a spot for every (forward) so we tried this ... But I guess we need a bit more practice."

The strategy comes partly out of necessity. The team's regular quarterback, Konrad Abeltshauser, is away at the IIHF second-tier world junior championship.

They're running with five natural defencemen

and have forward Travis Randell taking third-pairing shifts on the back end, so putting forwards on the power-play point gives blue-liners a chance to rest.

"You've got to be responsible defensively and know when not to give up an odd-man rush by making a gamble of a pinch or (getting caught) on the boards," said Mooseheads captain Cameron Critchlow. "It's definitely a different scene, and it takes some time to adjust."

The Mooseheads visit the Titan tonight at 7:30.

● MATTHEW WUEST



► Mooseheads forward Alexandre Grenier.

## Pep's perpetual pre-season

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

► Rainmen about to set a franchise record for roster turnover in one season ► Coach says team hopes it has found the right mix to stick with



MATTHEW WUEST  
@METRONEWS.CA

His personnel keeps changing by the week, but Josep 'Pep' Claros just keeps winning for the Halifax Rainmen.

Claros, in his first season as head coach, has guided the Rainmen to three straight wins and six wins in the past eight, all while having 22 different players suit up for him through 10 games this season.

When Troy Gottselig debuts tonight on the road against the Summerside Storm, the Rainmen will set a franchise record for most players dressed in a single season.

"Every week, it's like the pre-season for me," Claros admitted. "Every week I need to adapt players, every week I need to make them understand (our) philosophy, mentality, and it's not easy."

Claros is quick to say it isn't a complaint — he says it's critical for the Rainmen to make these moves now so they have the right players in place to build chemistry for the playoffs.

### Rainmen rosters

### by the numbers

Season-by-season breakdown of players in uniform for the Halifax Rainmen, with games played in parentheses:

- 2007-08: 18 (32 games)
- 2008-09: 17 (20 games)
- 2009-10: 18 (20 games)
- 2010-11: 22 (20 games)
- 2011-12: 22 (10 games)

The frantic rate of turnover should start to mellow soon, not only because the Rainmen are four transactions away from the NBL of Canada limit of 12, but also because they appear to be happy with the roster they've assembled.

Claros said it's not just about talent, it's about finding players who "fit in with the team, the city, the organization, and the team mentality."

"The people here want to stay, want to work and really want to be in Halifax," he said. "We have the right personnel, but now we have to make them play together, and still, it takes a little bit longer. You can't



► Head coach Josep 'Pep' Claros gets animated during a recent Halifax Rainmen game.

just do it one game at home — you have to do it every day."

The Rainmen are third in the National Basketball League of Canada stand-

ings at 6-4, two and a half games behind the first-place London Lightning, 10-3.

"Three wins in a row and six of eight, it's good,

but you always have a new opportunity to get to the next level," Claros said. "Thursday (against Summerside) is that opportunity."





# Heavyweight contenders

► Elite defence, multi-tasking forwards named to Canadian WJC team

The Canadian team charged with reclaiming gold at the world junior hockey championship will be able to count on a big, deep defence, multi-purpose forwards and an experienced goaltender.

"We have real good balance," coach Don Hay said yesterday of his 22-man squad. "When we tried to put the team together, we really looked at what we'd need if somebody went down with an injury. Could that player move up? Play on the power-play and kill penalties and things like that?"

"We have a couple top-end lines and a couple of hard-working third and fourth lines and we have players that can fill different roles and move into different positions."

Led by Saginaw Spirit's Jamie Oleksiak (almost six foot seven and 244 pounds), the seven defencemen chosen average almost six foot three and 200 pounds. Five of them were taken in the first round of the NHL draft. Up front, Canada profited when Devante Smith-Pelly of the Anaheim Ducks and Brett Connolly of the Tampa Bay Lightning were made available.

Smith-Pelly, 5-11 and 212 pounds, is projected to play the wing on Canada's top line.

"I think we'll be physical in a lot of different ways," said Hay, who coaches the WHL Vancouver Giants. "We have a lot of speed that will let us get to pucks quickly and then when we get the pucks we'll be physical on the puck. You have Smith-Pelly who will create

**"I learned a lot from last year. ... It's something I used to motivate myself in the summer ... but right now it's a clean slate."**

GOALIE MARK VISENTIN

a lot of physical play and I think guys will really follow him."

The 2012 world junior hockey championship opens Dec. 26 in Calgary and Edmonton. Canada will play its Pool B games in Edmonton. Pool A and medal-round games are in Calgary.

Mark Visentin, one of four Niagara IceDogs named to the Canadian team, will start in goal.

"Coming in, he's the No. 1 guy," Hay said. "I think you're always proving yourself and he knows that."

Scott Wedgewood of the Plymouth Whalers is the other goalie.

Visentin, Connolly, Quinton Howden of the Moose Jaw Warriors and Jaden Schwartz of Colorado College all played in the 2011 tournament.

Canada had the gold medal in its grasp in Buffalo with a 3-0 lead heading into the third period. Russia scored five unanswered goals on Visentin in the third to take it away from them.

Freddie and Dougie Hamilton will be the first brothers to play for the Canadian team since Randy and Mike Moller 30 years ago. Freddie is 19 and Dougie is 18.

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► Boston's Tim Thomas makes a save on a tip by Senators forward Erik Condra in Ottawa last night.

JANA CHYTILOVA/FREESTYLE PHOTOGRAPHY/GETTY IMAGES

## Bruins pull away from Sens late

Patrice Bergeron and Daniel Paille scored on breakaways 56 seconds apart in the third period and Tim Thomas made 47 saves as the Boston Bruins beat the Ottawa Senators 5-2 last night. Daniel Alfredsson and Jason Spezza each had a goal and an assist for Ottawa. Craig Anderson stopped 24 shots in defeat. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# Paul and NBA get Hollywood ending

► Clippers land star point guard ► 'The future of the Hornets ... is brighter than it's ever been,' says Stern

Chris Paul is headed to Los Angeles for real this time — to the Clippers, not the Lakers.

The Hornets traded Chris Paul to the Los Angeles Clippers for guard Eric Gordon, forward Al-Farouq Aminu, centre Chris Kaman and a first-round draft choice last night.

The deal required the approval of NBA commissioner David Stern because the Hornets are owned by the league.

The move puts an end to a tortured week in which the Hornets' season sat in limbo while the NBA took a

### Stern's success?

NBA commissioner David Stern says his only consideration during trade talks concerning Chris Paul was getting the best deal for the New Orleans Hornets.

The commissioner says he did not believe a deal he rejected involving Paul going to the Lakers last week was as good for the Hornets as what the Clippers offered.

public relations beating.

The Hornets at last have a measure of certainty

about the roster they'll have when the regular season begins in less than two weeks.

Paul, already a star with international appeal, gets to play in one of the NBA's biggest markets, even if his new team plays in the shadow of the Lakers. That's the club Paul was almost traded to last week, only to have Stern nix the deal and unleash a torrent of bad publicity on his league just as it was trying to generate good will after a nearly five-month labour dispute that has shortened the season.

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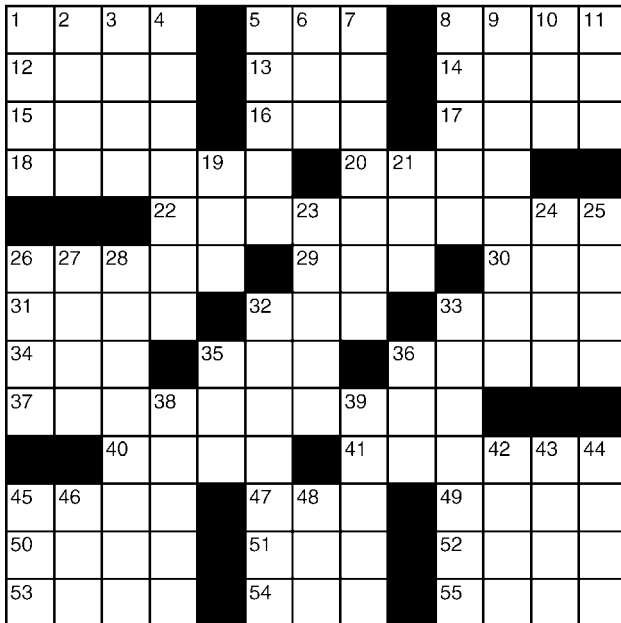
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- 8 Spare tire
- 12 Lima's land
- 13 Island souvenir
- 14 Anger
- 15 Right on the map?
- 16 Energy
- 17 It takes the cake
- 18 Squat down
- 20 Lounge around
- 22 Steinway accessory
- 26 Winter warmer
- 29 Ostrich's cousin
- 30 Payable
- 31 Crazy one
- 32 Gabor or Mendes
- 33 Frau's mate
- 34 Submachine gun
- 35 Chopping tool
- 36 Heart line?
- 37 Weightlifting maneuver
- 40 Brat's stocking stuffer
- 41 Meager
- 45 Met melody
- 47 Chances, for short
- 49 Middy
- 50 Covers
- 51 A Gershwin
- 52 Fragrant oil source
- 53 Versifier
- 54 Plaything
- 55 — and crafts



### Down

- 1 Detail, for short
- 2 Rip
- 3 Approximately
- 4 Taken advantage of

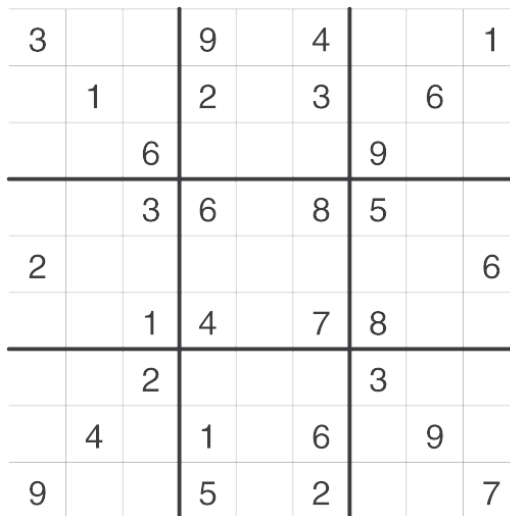
- 5 Greek leader?
- 6 Born
- 7 Sheepskin
- 8 Reached 32 degrees, maybe
- 9 Light purple shade
- 10 Time of your life?
- 11 Quarterback
- Roethlisberger
- 19 Spy novel org.
- 21 — Dhabi
- 23 When pigs fly
- 24 Rudely brief
- 25 Zeus' consort
- 26 Organization
- 27 Leak slowly

- 28 Agree
- 32 Use
- 33 Cry of acclamation
- 35 "Eureka!"
- 36 Cleo's slayer
- 38 Move on momentum
- 39 English homework, maybe
- 42 Lion's call
- 43 Type
- 44 Tackles' team-mates
- 45 Height for Heidi
- 46 Carnival city
- 48 Expert

### ► Yesterday's answer



## Sudoku



## How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

### Yesterday's answer ►

6	5	8	7	4	9	1	2	3
1	3	9	2	8	5	6	4	7
2	7	4	3	1	6	8	5	9
4	9	6	1	3	7	5	8	2
8	2	7	6	5	4	9	3	1
3	1	5	8	9	2	4	7	6
5	6	3	9	2	8	7	1	4
9	4	2	5	7	1	3	6	8
7	8	1	4	6	3	2	9	5

## Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at [metronews.ca/kiss](http://metronews.ca/kiss).

*Nice face! You're really sweet! That's all I really need to say. My social awkwardness may keep me from asking you out for a while, but you're just too darn pretty to worry about that.* **WEEKDAYGROWLERFILLER**

*Youmattie, You are a dream I do not wish to wake. But if I must wake, let me wake with a Kiss.* **TERENCE**

*My wonderful Prince Charming, you are my unique and true love! You are my endless love! You are my destiny! I believe that fate has brought us together til the end of time! You are a gift from heaven! and today is my b-day..I am blessed and lucky to be loved by you! Thank you for loving me so much, for your support and in believing and trusting in me... I love you so much.* **C.L. FOREVER YOUR PRINCESS**

## Today's horoscope

**♈ Aries** March 21-April 20 So many things are going right for you now that it's like you have a guardian angel watching over you.

**♉ Taurus** April 21-May 21 An investment you made a long time ago may pay off today.

**♊ Gemini** May 22-June 21 Make the effort to remind the people who mean the most to you how much you care for them.

**♋ Cancer** June 22-July 22 Take care with your thoughts today, because what you focus on will very soon become your reality. Think only happy thoughts.

**♌ Leo** July 23-Aug. 23 Cosmic activity in your fellow Fire sign of Sagittarius makes it easy for you to persuade friends and rivals to give you what you need.

**♍ Virgo** Aug. 24-Sept. 22 If you're not careful, you could find yourself swept away on a tide of other people's negative feelings.

**♎ Libra** Sept. 23-Oct. 23 You will say something outrageous today — and you will be applauded for it.

**♏ Scorpio** Oct. 24-Nov. 22 If someone says you need to prove your friendship by spending money, you're being taken on a ride.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

**♐ Sagittarius** Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Whatever target it is you are aiming at, you will hit it with ease.

**♑ Capricorn** Dec. 22-Jan. 20 You know instinctively that what someone is telling you is a lie. Just turn your back and walk away.

**♒ Aquarius** Jan. 21-Feb. 18 This is a great day for reaching out to people you have not seen in a while. Renew those old friendships.

**♓ Pisces** Feb. 19-March 20. You'll get the opportunity to make a powerful friend today. Don't try to be modest about your talents.

● SALLY BROMPTON

**Today**

3°/-3°

Cloudy

40%

**Friday**

9°/-9°

Rain

80%

Your #1 weather forecast now available in HD.

Check your local listings for details.

The Weather Channel HD

TWN incorporates MSC data

**Caption contest**

"Err, Santa... You know this is the SOUTH pole"

JOHN

**WIN! You write it!**

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to [play@metronews.ca](mailto:play@metronews.ca) — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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**metro**



**TOYOTA**  
**YEAR  
END  
COUNT  
DOWN**

O'REGAN'S IS OFFERING

# BOXING DAY CASH

ALL MONTH!

2011 **RAV4** FWD

~~55~~ **55**  
AVAILABLE

STARTING \$26,255 | NOW \$24,255 - BOXING CASH \$750

**\$23,505\***

PURCHASE FROM **\$198**<sup>^</sup>

TAXES INCLUDED

LEASE FROM **\$282\*\***

B/W PLUS TAX

**\$0**  
DOWN

## 2011 COROLLA

**\$13,840\***

YEAR END PRICE

STARTING \$16,840 | NOW \$14,340 - BOXING CASH \$500

**OR**

**\$16,515\***

YEAR END PRICE

STARTING \$20,015 | NOW \$17,015 - BOXING CASH \$500

54 AVAILABLE  
NOW **46** AVAILABLE

AUTO, A/C, PWR LOCKS, KEYLESS ENTRY

## 2011 MATRIX

**YEAR END PRICE!**

**\$14,855\***

STARTING FROM \$18,105 | NOW \$15,355 - BOXING CASH \$500

~~30 AVAILABLE~~ NOW **27** AVAILABLE

## 2011 VENZA

**\$4000 + \$750**

INITIAL SAVINGS BOXING CASH

**TOTAL SAVINGS OF \$4,750**

NOW **8** AVAILABLE

**\$1500 + \$500**

INITIAL SAVINGS BOXING CASH

**TOTAL SAVINGS OF \$2,000**

NOW **10** AVAILABLE

12 AVAILABLE

## 2011 TACOMA 4X4

**\$4000 + \$500**

INITIAL SAVINGS BOXING CASH

**TOTAL SAVINGS OF \$4,500**

NOW **10** AVAILABLE

**\$5500 + \$1000**

INITIAL SAVINGS BOXING CASH

**TOTAL SAVINGS OF \$6,500**

NOW **5** AVAILABLE

12 AVAILABLE